

## A B S T R A C T

A METHOD OF ISSUING A TICKET PAID FOR BY ILLEGAL PAYMENT  
MEANS, AND A VENDING MACHINE AND A TICKET READER FOR  
5 IMPLEMENTING THE METHOD

The invention relates to a method of issuing a  
ticket paid for with illegal payment means during a  
transaction between a user and a ticket vending machine  
10 (10), at the end of which transaction the machine (10)  
issues a ticket (28R, 28M, 46R, 46M) to the user in  
exchange for payment using payment means, the machine  
(10) including means for detecting illegal payment means,  
and the method being of the type in which the transaction  
15 comprises in succession:

- a payment step (E2) during which the user pays for  
the ticket (28R, 28M, 46R, 46M) by using a payment means;
  - a checking step (E3) during which the machine (10)  
checks that the payment means used are regular;
  - 20 • if the payment means are checked as being regular,  
there follows a printing step (E4R) of printing the  
ticket, during which a regular ticket (28R, 46R) is  
printed on a blank ticket or medium; and
  - thereafter the method includes an issuing step  
25 (E5) of issuing the ticket (28R, 46R) to the user;
- the method being characterized in that when the  
payment means are checked as being illegal, the printed  
ticket (28M, 46M) is marked in such a manner as to enable  
the marked ticket (28M, 46M) to be distinguished from a  
30 regular ticket (28R) during an inspection operation.

Translation of the title and the abstract as they were when originally filed by the  
35 Applicant. No account has been taken of any changes that may have been made  
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38.2, and/or 48.3.